

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims:

14. (Withdrawn) An isolated pyruvate carboxylase polypeptide having an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical to a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) the amino acid sequence of the pyruvate carboxylase polypeptide having the complete amino acid sequence in SEQ ID NO: 2; and

(b) the amino acid sequence of the pyruvate carboxylase polypeptide having the complete amino acid sequence encoded by the clone contained in ATCC Deposit No. PTA-982.

15. (Amended) A method of making lysine amino acids by fermentation, comprising culturing a strain of *Corynebacterium glutamicum* in a culture medium, said strain including expressing a an isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding pyruvate carboxylase, said nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence at least 95% identical to a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a nucleotide sequence encoding the pyruvate carboxylase polypeptide having the amino acid sequence in SEQ ID NO: 2;

(b) a nucleotide sequence encoding the pyruvate carboxylase polypeptide having the complete amino acid sequence encoded by the clone contained in ATCC Deposit No. PTA-982; and

(c) a nucleotide sequence complementary to any of the nucleotide sequences in (a) or (b),

wherein said pyruvate carboxylase is expressed 2 to 20 fold higher in said strain than in wild-type *Corynebacterium glutamicum*;

producing lysine, and recovering said lysine ~~amino acids~~.

16. (Canceled).

17. (Canceled).